

I am against dropping the Morse code requirement for amateur radio licensing.

We are supposed to be a national resource. The fullest effectiveness of such a resource is flexibility and widest knowlege. CW adds flexibility and greater knowledge to the resource.

So what if I don't ever plan to use it? I don't know as much as I should know about PSK-31 either and probably will never use it but it is a technical and operational feature of amateur radio that exists now and I should know something about it. At least keep the 5 wpm requirements so that new hams "know something about it."

If a terrorist knows that we have no skill in copying certain signals, then that is the technology he will use in key situations. We need to maintain at least a modicum of skill in the CW mode.

I have been a ham for over 41 years and this is the first time I have ever written to the FCC with a comment. To be fair, please be informed that I operate CW about 85% of the time on HF and two meters and that I can send and copy CW at about 50 wpm. So I enjoy it. My comments, however, relate to being a resource in unplanned times and in maintaining at least some knowledge of all aspects of the radio art.

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